

Pearson Fellow in my office, be permitted the privilege of the floor while I deliver this statement.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### REMOVAL OF INJUNCTION OF SECRECY—TREATY DOCUMENT NO. 106-23

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, on behalf of the distinguished majority leader, as in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that the injunction of secrecy be removed from the following convention transmitted to the Senate on March 23, 2000, by the President of the United States: International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), Treaty Document No. 106-23.

I further ask that the convention be considered as having been read the first time; that it be referred, with accompanying papers, to the Committee on Foreign Relations and ordered to be printed; and that the President's message be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The message of the President is as follows:

#### *To the Senate of the United States:*

With a view to receiving the advice and consent of the Senate to acceptance, I transmit herewith the revised International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), adopted at the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations at Rome on November 17, 1997. In accordance with Article XIII of the existing IPPC, the revised text will enter into force for all contracting parties 30 days after acceptance by two-thirds of the contracting parties.

The revisions are designed to bring the IPPC into line with modern practices and concepts, and to establish new mechanisms to promote the development and adoption of international phytosanitary standards.

It is my hope that the Senate will give prompt and favorable consideration to this Convention, and give its advice and consent to acceptance by the United States, subject to the two proposed understandings set forth in the accompanying report, at the earliest possible date.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, March 23, 2000.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I may proceed in morning business for such time as I may require.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### KOSOVO AMENDMENT

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, on March 9, I advised the Senate of my intention to offer an amendment on Kosovo to the supplemental, assuming that legislation comes up. If not, I will consider other avenues of legislation to incorporate the basic structure of this amendment.

I have been joined in this effort by a thoughtful and well-respected number of my colleagues; indeed, the distinguished Senator from Alaska, who just departed the floor, and the distinguished Senator from Hawaii.

I placed a draft copy of the amendment in the RECORD at that time and invited comment and constructive criticism. I am so pleased to report that has happened in abundance.

I am here today to report to the Senate there has been an increasing interest in this amendment—positive, in most instances. I will refer to one bit of very constructive criticism momentarily.

We have taken into consideration the views of many. I will be putting in today's RECORD an amendment which shows certain modifications, technical modifications, which I hope will meet some of the very fine constructive ideas I have received.

To summarize, the amendment would require our European allies to fulfill a certain percentage of the commitments they have made to provide assistance and police personnel to Kosovo before the entire \$2 billion contained in the supplemental for United States military operations in Kosovo would be made available.

The amendment would allow for the provision of 50 percent of the money—over \$1 billion—immediately for the use of the Department of Defense. But the remainder would be dependent on a certification by the President of the United States that our allies had provided a certain percentage of their commitments of assistance to Kosovo.

If the President is not able to make that certification by June 1, then the remaining \$1 billion could be used only to conduct the safe, orderly, and phased withdrawal of our troops from Kosovo—not a cut and run; not a fixed timetable; I repeat, a safe and orderly phased withdrawal.

Again, I have been pleased by the response that has been generated by this amendment. It is clear, we have already achieved our first goal of focusing attention on this very serious problem in Kosovo.

Actions on the part of our allies are being taken at an accelerated rate, and much more detailed information on such actions, past and present, are becoming available daily.

For example, this past week I received letters from Lord Robertson, the Secretary General of NATO, and Dr. Bernard Kouchner, the head of the UN Mission in Kosovo, outlining the increased efforts of burdensharing of certain allies.

According to the letter I received from Dr. Kouchner—I would like to quote a paragraph—I quote:

I very much appreciate the efforts that you have made so far which have been instrumental in improving our budget situation. Existing donor pledges have now been honored. The next challenge will be to get new donor pledges and to ensure that the pledges for the reconstruction budget of 17 November 1999 do materialize.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the letters from Lord Robertson and Dr. Kouchner be printed in the RECORD at the conclusion of my remarks, with certain other documents that I will attach, and letters.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(See Exhibits 1 and 2.)

Mr. WARNER. In addition, I had the opportunity to meet yesterday with Ambassador Guenter Burghardt, the European Commission representative in Washington, who provided me with valuable information on the contributions of the EU, particularly their efforts to streamline their process for providing assistance.

Several weeks ago, it was very difficult to get accurate information on what had been pledged by our allies—not that they were withholding it; people just could not find it, in many instances, and put it into writing—and almost impossible to get data on what had actually been supplied to Kosovo.

Now we are clearly making progress on this front, but more remains to be done.

I asked for constructive criticism. And within the hour, by pure coincidence, because I planned to deliver these remarks, came a letter from our former distinguished majority leader, and my very close friend and mentor, Senator Robert Dole.

I ask unanimous consent to print a letter from Senator Dole in the RECORD following my remarks.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(See Exhibit 3.)

Mr. WARNER. Senator Dole wrote:

Accordingly, I would urge you to consider, at a minimum, allowing a Presidential waiver authority based upon compelling national security needs.

That sort of thing is often done. We carefully considered that. But after consultation with my cosponsors and many others, we decided not because it would make the amendment so weakened that it loses its purport. Therefore, I say respectfully to my former leader that that I cannot do. However, he has made other suggestions. And by pure coincidence and timing, they have been incorporated in the revised amendment, which I will file as a part of these remarks.

For example, he said:

That said, I believe in principle that you are entirely right to try to hold the Administration's feet to the fire to ensure that the United States continues to lead, while at the same time preventing it from shouldering an inordinate share of the international burden in the Balkans. The devil is in the details, however, and I am concerned that some of the targets identified in your amendment simply cannot be met, and that the European powers are being held to a higher standard than the United States. For example, is it realistic for the United States and/or Europeans to be required to disburse 33 percent of the funds needed for Kosovo reconstruction by June 1, 2000?

Prior to receiving this letter, we had made technical changes from "disbursed" to "obligated or contracted